DEO): (a) to (c) Government in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing various Plan schemes during 8th Plan for modernisation and development of meat and poultry processing industries, training of manpower, research and development, etc. The schemes relate to—

(a) Development of meat processing (pork, sheep, goat, rabbit and buffalo meat),

(b) Development of poultry and egg processing,

(c) Development of marketing facilities, infrastructure and transport for the meat,

(d) Research, technology and man-power development,

(e) Establishment of National Livestock Products Development Council.

In addition, the Department of Animal Husbandary and Diarying, in the Ministry of Agriculture also operates a scheme for improvement/modernisation of existing slaughter houses, establishment of new slaughter houses (abattoir) in lieu of existing ones. Under these schemes, assistance are provided as interest-free loan/grant-in-aid to State Government organisation, joint sector/assisted sector units, cooperatives, etc. for setting up/ upgrading meat and poultry processing units/abattoirs, Research and Technology Development, Training of Manpower, marketing facilities and infrastructure.

In the last 3 years, financial assistances were provided to various organisations for training of artisans and managers, state-wise details of which are given in the statement *(see below)*. Number of artisans and managers trained during the last 3 years in the meat and poultry industries is 697.

Statement

S. No.	State	Name of the Organisation	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	A.P. State Meat & Poultry Development Corporation.	4.806 lakhs.
2.	Assam	Assam Meat & Poultry Corpn. Assam Agriculture University.	10.30 lakhs.
3.	Bihar	Ranchi Agriculture University.	1.00 lakhs.
4.	Karnataka	Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.	0.90 lakhs.
5.	Maharashtra	Bombay Veterinary College Indian Institute of Poultry Management.	5.118 lakhs.
6.	Manipur	Manipur State Poultry Farmers' Cooperative Federation. Manipur State Piggery Farmers' Cooperative Federation.	3.10 lakhs.
7.	Uttar Pradesh	U.P. Pasudan Udyog Nigam Ltd.	1.40 lakhs.

Liberal Visa Facility By Pakistan

*259. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has take some measures assuring visa clearance for the business delegation within 24 hours from the date of receipt of the request;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such facility will be available to Indian visitors to Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) In response to press reports that Pakistan has liberalised its visa regime for Indian businessmen, a spokesman of the Pakistani Interior Ministry stated that these reports were not in consonance with the policy being followed by Pakistan and had created an erroneous impression.

(c) and (d) Pakistan continues to follow a restrictive visa regime for Indian nationals which involves the pre-verification of all visa applications on a case-by-case basis. Government have, in pursuance of their policy of encouraging people-to-people contacts urged Pakistan to facilitate travel between the two countries. Government have also suggested to Pakistan for the convening of a meeting of the Sub-Committion (IV) of the India-Pakistan Joint Commission which deals with visa and consular related matters.

Acquisition of Arms by Pakistan from Ukraine

*260. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer. to the answer to Unstarred Question 378 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29.11.95 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan is acquiring large quantities of lethal weapons including tanks, jet fighters and warships from Ukraine; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to meet the challenge posed by military imbalance in the sub-continent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government have seen reports that Pakistan is seeking the supply of arms and equipment from Ukraine.

(b) Government will take all necessary measures to ensure the security of India.

Amendment to F.C.R.A.

1579. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount received by various organisations in the country from foreign countries for the purposes of development under foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) during 1994-95 and so far in 1995-96;

(b) whether it is a fact that many organisations are taking advantage of loopholes of the said Act to operate which is becoming a major market; and

(c) whether Government are considering to make Amendment in the said Act to make it more strict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) the information for the year 1994-95 is under compilation. Intimation of receipt of Foreign contribution for the year 1995-96 from various organisations will be due after 31st March, 1996.

(b) and (c) while no specific instances of misuse have come to notice, amendment to the Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 is under consideration to ensure greater effectiveness.